

**CITY OF SEQUIM
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEQUIM CIVIC CENTER
152 WEST CEDAR STREET
SEQUIM, WA
JANUARY 25, 2016**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Bob Lake, Pam Leonard-Ray, J. Miller, T. Miller, Candace Pratt, Dennis Smith, Genaveve Starr

Youth Advisory Council Member: Wendall Lorenzen

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

INTRODUCTIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

CEREMONIAL

REPORTS

Committee, Board and Liaison

Leonard-Ray reported on the Arts Commission meeting she attended today. The commission is looking at possibilities for art for the chambers. They hope to bring a concept and options within the next 2 months. The donated glass piece should be ready for installation on February 1 in time for February Art Walk. The CAAC would like to have Councilmembers attending the First Friday events. In March CAAC will host the Habitat for Humanity artistic door contest and April will be the new exhibit Black & White. Keying Around will take place in July with a gala event that includes an auction. They are also looking at plaza programming for the summer months.

Starr reported on the CTS board meeting where they elected new officers. She will be vice chair. They also approved purchasing 3 new Paratransit buses.

J. Miller attended SWAC meeting. There is currently a problem with oil based paint which may require charging a deposit when people purchase the paint. Garbage rates are being increased because of the landfill issues. He suggested people contact him with their issues or suggestions.

Pratt reported the next Homeless Connect takes place March 4. They need volunteers to help with the event. She will send the information to Karen to distribute to Councilors.

Presiding Officer

Mayor Smith reported that he attended the Planning Commission meeting where they discussed issues on the agenda for tonight. He added that CTS discussed easements with the City regarding parking and the Transit Center park-n-ride.

City Manager

1. City Attorney Analysis

Bush reported that our City Attorney is planning to retire in 2016. Staff has completed an analysis of whether to have in-house or a contract attorney. Staff is recommending hiring a full-time, in-house attorney. Joe Irvin explained the options that were considered. Travel costs were not included in the ranges received. Bush stated if Council is supportive, the next step is to begin recruitment.

T. Miller, Starr, Smith, Lake, Leonard-Ray and Pratt expressed their thoughts and support for having an in-house attorney.

2. Countywide Planning Policies

Hugo explained the countywide planning policies and its importance. Staff has been meeting with City/County counterparts to create a committee to work on the policies. The committee will meet in April and conclude by June.

3. 2016 Events

This is provided to Council for informational purposes.

Bush stated he has a request from the Tribe for a letter of support for a grant for the Blyn sewer project. Council was in support of sending the letter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Denise Cordero, secretary of the Sequim Picklers, thanked staff for the proposed changes to the fence design standards. This will allow for tournaments. She thanked Joe Irvin for his continued support.

INFORMATION/COUNCIL QUESTIONS INVITED

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Legislative)

4. Ordinance 2016-01 amending SMC 13.12 Application for Services

Mayor Smith read the rules for the public hearing which was opened at 6:35 p.m.

Ritchie explained this is brought forward to make the consequences more clear to persons wishing to disconnect from utilities.

Ron Fairclough explained his intentions with his 2 pieces of property with buildings on them. He does not want to pay more fees to build a bigger building.

Mayor Smith asked for additional speakers. Hearing no response, the public hearing closed at 6:44 p.m.

MOTION to adopt Ordinance No. 2016-001 amending SMC Chapter 13.12 Application for Utility Service made by Pratt, second by T. Miller. Carried Unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approve/Acknowledge
 - a. City Council Meeting Minutes - January 11, 2016
 - b. Claim Voucher Recap Dated 1/25/16 Total Payments \$804,063.93
 - c. Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Center Contract
 - d. Department of Commerce GMA Assistance Grant Extension
 - e. 4th Quarter Reports
 - i. Boys & Girls Club
 - ii. Dungeness Valley Health and Wellness Clinic
 - iii. Healthy Families
 - iv. Shipley Center

Pratt clarified that the minutes should indicate speakers have 3 minutes but if they wanted more to contact the City Manager, Clerk or Mayor.

MOTION to accept the Consent Agenda with amendment to minutes made by Pratt; second by Starr. Carried Unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. Easement with Clallam Transit System

Ritchie explained this is an exchange of properties with Clallam Transit. This was agreed to some time ago. CTS signed the agreement this morning. Staff recommends approval. The City will record the document.

Starr and Smith will abstain due to their participation on the CTS board

MOTION to authorize the City Manager to execute the easement to CTS which is in exchange for the easement from CTS made by Pratt; second by T. Miller. Aye by Leonard-Ray, Pratt, T. Miller, J. Miller, Lake. Abstain Smith and Starr. Motion Carries.

7. Standard & Poor's Bond Ratings for Civic Center Debt and the Importance of Sound Financial Policies

Hagener shared information with Council on the importance of a high bond rating. She provided background information on what went into the presentation to Standard & Poor's and explained the City's bond rating.

Starr expressed concern over S&P's comments regarding utility rates. Hagener explained there is a small population to share the associated costs.

8. Financial Policies Review and Approval

Hagener explained that the change order policy is being removed as the new City Engineer has some changes he would like to see.

MOTION to adopt the financial policies including Budget Development, Fund Balance and Reserves, Investments, Debt Management, Interfund Loans, Equipment Acquisition & Replacement, Financial Planning made by T. Miller; second by Leonard-Ray. Carried Unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Contract with Sequim Prairie Tri-Irrigation District

This item is pulled from the agenda. There are details that need to be worked out with the irrigation district.

10. Community Signage Policy

Kuznek-Reese explained that two kiosks have been built as an Eagle Scout project. There is a kiosk at each end of town that will accommodate 9 community organization signs. Community organizations are defined as "voluntary, non-profit, non-political, and non-commercial." There was discussion concerning organizations that should be able to participate. It was suggested participants be selected on a first-come, first-served basis and one sign allowed per organization for the first 60 days to determine level of interest.

Lake feels the organization should be open to everyone because they are on public property. Define "open to everyone." Rotary and Soroptomist provide memberships based on a vote of the members. Service clubs benefit everyone by their existence. We need to clarify who is eligible? Churches? Rainbow girls?

Ritchie responded that the language is intended to comply with the current 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision and state law so we are not discriminating and have a limited open forum. We want to retain a controlled, limited forum.

Options include to create a waiting list, build additional sign structures. or have a lottery system. This issue will come back to Council in February.

11. [Ordinance No. 2016-001 Amending Fence Standards](#)

Hugo indicated this revision is brought forward because of the Sequim Picklers' request. Our design standards for fences are unnecessarily restrictive. The code has been amended to allow the mesh fabric. There was discussion as to whether we need fences at all. It is a matter of safety for the participants and park visitors. This removes a code barrier and provides options.

MOTION to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to amend SMC 18.24.140 relating to fences at sports facilities, parks and playgrounds within the City, as proposed by City staff and recommended by the Planning Commission made by Pratt; second by Lake. Carried Unanimously.

12. [Resolution R2016-02 Asking Legislature for Assistance on SR101 and Support of Happy Valley Residents Request](#)

Garlington stated the roadway geometry is deficient on SR101. He has had discussions with DOT concerning this section of road. DOT says there are intersections that are higher priorities. Letters have been written by the City to DOT and legislators without any success. There is no program to produce the magnitude of safety fixes. The legislature will need to put something into the project list. The legislators decide which transportation fixes are made. Improvements to 101 were designed in the 90's to make the area safe. The rights-of-way have already been purchased for the ultimate design which means there is enough land to do the interim design. Local residents have letters and petitions that have been signed by various members of the community.

Staff asks for Council's support to the staff and residents and to encourage our legislators to get some improvements made to this intersection. This is also the area where Keeler Park is located. Improvements to this park would not be made until there is safe way to access the property.

Bush added that this can be presented to the legislators on Wednesday.

There were discussions concerning the various options.

MOTION to adopt Resolution R2016-02 asking the Washington State Legislature to work with the Washington State Department of Transportation to fund safety improvements to SR101 made by T. Miller; second by Lake. Carried Unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Please limit comments to 3 minutes each)

Paul Rennick represents the American Legion. They are in favor of having their logo placed on one or both signs. American Legion is open only to veterans and provides a great service to the City in terms of veterans' benefits.

Christine Huell supports signage on the kiosk for the Daughters of American Revolution. Members must be a direct descendant of a soldier that served during the American Revolution but their meetings are open to the public. They are celebrating 100 years this year. Their main focus is patriotism, education and historic preservation. They work with the schools, have donated to MAC, Captain Joseph House, etc. Please consider an option to allow organizations to participate who allow the public to attend their meetings but not have a voting right.

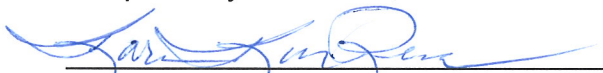
Shirley and Gary Rudolf thanked everyone for their prompt response and support of their issue.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Smith announced the next meeting dates of February 8, 2016 (6:00 p.m.) and February 22, 2016 (6:00 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Karen Kuznek-Reese, MMC
City Clerk


Dennis Smith
Mayor

Minutes approved at a regular Council meeting held on February 8, 2016.